

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5 and 7-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaku (U.S. Patent No. 5,987,334) in view of Donahue et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,835,721). Applicants traverse the rejection because the cited references fail to disclose or suggest a communication controller that includes, among other things, a control unit that waits until “reconnection” is designated when a transmission or reception is interrupted because of an error, or a step of “waiting until reconnection” is designated when data transmission or reception is interrupted because of an error, as recited in independent claims 1 and 5, respectively. Applicants further traverse the rejection because there is no motivation to combine the references.

Donahue discloses a system for data transmission over a network length between computers. The system makes a decision based on whether the sender is still available on the network, and if the sender is still available, the decision causes data to be received at the receiver (see Col. 10, lns. 23-57). If the sender is not available to the receiver, then a broken connection processing is performed (Col. 10, lns. 34-57). A logical network link is maintained between the sending and receiving computers even though a physical link between the sending a receiving computers is lost. So long as the physical link can be returned within a predetermined period of time, the sending and receiving of data can function as if the network link was never lost, but merely briefly interrupted.

Donahue further discloses that if the connection is no longer open or if the user has terminated the connection, that a “broken connection processing” exists with an

indication that the connection was terminated (Col. 10, lns. 12-16). Accordingly, Donahue maintains a logical network link between the sending and receiving computers even though the physical link between the sending and receiving computers is lost, so long as a physical link can be returned within a predetermined period of time. However, Donahue performs the broken connection processing shown in FIG. 8, which exists when an indication that the connection was terminated occurs, if the physical link is not returned within the predetermined period of time.

In contrast, a feature of the present invention is that when data transmission or reception is interrupted because of an error, a mobile socket or control unit waits until reconnection is designated (see Applicants' specification page 23, line 17 to page 24, line 11, and page 27, line 15 to page 28, line 9). Thus, the control unit is set to a reconnection standby state (see Applicants' specification page 31, lines 10-22). Donahue fails to disclose or suggest this feature and Kaku does not disclose it either. For at least these reasons the §103 rejection should be withdrawn.

In addition to the above, Applicants traverse the rejection because there is no motivation to combine the references. Kaku is directed to a radio telephone network, which does not have a logical link. Donahue is directed to a computer network, which has a logical link in addition to a physical link. Applicants respectfully submit that one would not be motivated to modify a radio telephone network to continue transferring unsent data after an interruption.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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